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PROGRAM ABC News Closeup:  
Mission: Mind Control

DATE January 30, 1979 11:30 PM CITY Washington, DC

SUBJECT Full Text

PAUL ALTMAYER: The human mind. Can it be controlled by someone else to perform acts against the will of the individual?

[Clip from "The Manchurian Candidate"]

ALTMAYER: Is control of the human being, such as "The Manchurian Candidate," possible?

The CIA's former chief psychologist:

DR. JOHN GITTERINGER: It made something totally impossible seem absolutely credible.

ALTMAYER: A psychologist and consultant to the CIA:

DR. MILTON KLEIN: My answer would be yes, without question, under the properly determined conditions.

ALTMAYER: This is the story of a 30-year search, and some of those engaged in that search have agreed to talk about it for the first time. One said, "I think every last one of us felt sorry to attempt this kind of thing. We knew we were crossing the line."

The search would be endless: from brothels -- an agent said, "We learned a lot about human nature in the bedroom" -- to the mystical rites of a magic mushroom ceremony performed by an Indian shaman, to a Spanish bullring. The bull has had electrodes implanted in the brain and is controlled by a scientist. There would be victims.